

## **The Declaration of Independence - A closer look**

**Student Directions:** As you read the Declaration of Independence, stop at the sections that say "a closer look". Answer the questions for each "closer look" using complete sentences.

1. In what ways can American voters bring about changes in their government?
2. Which offense do you think was the worst? Why?
3. Why was this action so "intolerable"?
4. Why did colonists object this act?
5. How do people today give consent to taxation?
6. Why did the colonists at first attempt to solve the dispute and remain loyal?
7. What other powers are held by an independent government?
8. Which signers do you recognize? Write one line about these signers.

## **Interactive Primary Source Assessment**

### **1. Main Ideas**

- a. What is the purpose of the Declaration of Independence as stated in the Preamble?
- b. What are the five main parts of the Declaration?
- c. What are three rights that all people have?

### **2. Critical Thinking**

**Drawing Conclusions** - Why did the colonies feel that they had to declare their independence? (Things to think about: colonial grievances against Britain; Britain's response to these grievances)